

The first documentation of the Nearctic-Paleotropical migratory route of the Arctic Warbler

Evan Adams¹, Ian Stenhouse¹, Andrew Gilbert¹, Jill Boelsma², George Gress³, Scott Weidensaul³, Charles Grigsby², Emily Williams⁴, Laura Phillips², and Carol McIntyre⁵

¹Biodiversity Research Institute

²Denali National Park and Preserve

³None

⁴Georgetown University

⁵National Park Service

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Abstract

The Arctic Warbler (*Phylloscopus borealis*) is a cryptic songbird that uses a Nearctic-Paleotropical migratory strategy. Using geolocators, we provide the first documentation of the migratory routes and wintering locations of two territorial adult male Arctic Warblers from Denali National Park and Preserve, Alaska. After accounting for position estimation uncertainties and biases, we found that both individuals departed their breeding grounds in early September, stopped over in southeastern Russia and China during autumn migration, then wintered in the Philippines and the island of Palau. Our documentation of Arctic Warbler wintering on Palau suggests that additional study is needed to document their wintering range. These results suggest that Arctic Warblers may migrate further overwater than previously thought and provide hitherto unknown information on stopover and wintering locations.

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